

December 2009

[Populist Caucus Endorses Wall Street Transaction Fee](#)

October 2009

[Populist Caucus Urges Leadership to Include Public Option in Healthcare Reform](#)

- [Read the letter here.](#)

Letter to Attorney General Holder and Secretary Geithner, Oversight of Executive Compensations

- [Read the letter here.](#)

July 2009:

Adoption of Healthcare Principles.

Populist Caucus Health Care Principles (Approved 07/08/09)

- Ensure every American has access to affordable, quality health care coverage;
- Allow consumers to keep their current coverage if they like it;
- Eliminate discrimination in insurance coverage;
- Increase consumer choice through a public option for insurance coverage that meets the following conditions:
 - It competes on a level playing field with private insurance options;
 - It maintains minimum levels of coverage that ensure quality care for its enrollees;
 - It reimburses providers equitably and adequately; and
 - It helps address current geographic disparities in access to care.
- The existing infrastructure of Medicare should be utilized to create a viable provider network, as long as improvements are made in Medicare's reimbursement structure and geographic disparity is addressed.
 - Shift the American health care system towards one that incentivizes high quality care, prevention, nutrition, and wellness; and
 - Address the problem of overutilization of care, which creates unnecessary costs of hundreds of billions of dollars and can lead to harmful medical errors.
 - Seek rebates for all Medicare beneficiaries from pharmaceutical manufacturers.

We, as a caucus, firmly believe these principles should be included in any healthcare reform

legislation.

May 2009:

[Letter: Panama Free Trade Agreement](#)

- Expressed serious concerns over the Panama Free Trade Agreement
- Argued that the agreement should be re-negotiated.
- Written with House Trade Working Group and Progressive Caucus
- Signed by 55 members of Congress which included House Rules Committee Chairwoman Louise Slaughter and House Judiciary Chairman John Conyers.

March 2009:

[Letter: AIG's Executive Bonuses](#)

- Expressed outrage and disbelief over AIG's payment of \$165 million in executive bonuses.
- Addressed to Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner
- Signed by 90 Members of Congress including 16 members of the Populist Caucus.

February 2009:

[Letter: "Buy American" Language](#)

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- Urged them to include strong "Buy American" language and an extension of Trade Adjustment Assistance in the final version of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.
- Addressed to House Leadership
- Signed by 13 Populist Caucus members